



## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Proposed Agency Information Collection Extension

**AGENCY:** Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, U.S. Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Energy's (DOE, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE)), pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, intends to extend for three years with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the EERE Environmental Questionnaire (OMB No. 1910-5175).

**DATES:** Comments regarding this proposed information collection extension must be received on or before **[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**. If you anticipate difficulty in submitting comments within that period, contact the person listed in **ADDRESSES** as soon as possible.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments may be sent to Lisa Jorgensen at: U.S. Department of Energy, 15013 Denver West Parkway, Golden, CO 80401, or by e-mail at [EEREEQComments@ee.doe.gov](mailto:EEREEQComments@ee.doe.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the EERE Environmental Questionnaire should be directed to Lisa Jorgensen at [EEREEQComments@ee.doe.gov](mailto:EEREEQComments@ee.doe.gov) or at (720) 356-1569. The EERE Environmental Questionnaire also is available for viewing in the *Golden Field Office Public Reading Room* at: [www.energy.gov/node/2299401](http://www.energy.gov/node/2299401). If you have difficulty accessing this document, please contact Casey Strickland at (720) 356-1575.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of DOE, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the

accuracy of DOE's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

This information collection request contains:

(1) *OMB No.*: 1910-5175;

(2) *Information Collection Request Title*: Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) Environmental Questionnaire;

(3) *Type of Request*: Revision;

(4) *Purpose*: The DOE's EERE provides federal funding through federal assistance programs to businesses, industries, universities, and other groups for renewable energy and energy efficiency research and development and demonstration projects. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) requires that an environmental analysis be completed for all major Federal actions significantly affecting the environment including projects entirely or partly financed by federal agencies. To effectively perform environmental analyses for these projects, the DOE's EERE needs to collect project-specific information from federal financial assistance awardees. DOE's EERE has developed its Environmental Questionnaire to obtain the required information and ensure that its decision-making processes are consistent with NEPA as it relates to renewable energy and energy efficiency research and development and demonstration projects. Minor changes have been made to the Environmental Questionnaire to standardize the process for collecting places of performance associated with a financial assistance project in an extractable and reportable format to better understand what communities are directly impacted by the projects being funded. Most of the changes only separated and created discrete data entry fields for information that

was already being collected within the existing Environmental Questionnaire. One new data field was added for foreign location identification. The average hours per response and annual estimated number of burden hours remain the same.

(5) *Annual Estimated Number of Total Responses*: 300;

(6) *Average Hours per Response*: 1.5;

(7) *Annual Estimated Number of Burden Hours*: 433; and

(8) *Annual Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden*: There is no cost associated with reporting and recordkeeping.

**Statutory Authority:** National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*).

#### **Signing Authority**

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on April 11, 2023, by Mathew Blevins, Director, Environment, Safety, and Health Office, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the *Federal Register*.

Signed in Washington, DC, on April 12, 2023.

**Treena V. Garrett,**  
*Federal Register Liaison Officer,*  
*U.S. Department of Energy.*